ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A reduction in the amount of information written to a log used to track message activity in a messaging system is achieved by not logging message data in a log record for the put of a message if the message data has been included in a previous message and is already available in the log. On receipt of a put request a check is made to see if there is a previous occurrence of the message data in the log. If there is not a previous occurrence a log record is written which includes the message data, but if there is a previous occurrence a log record is written which does not contain the message data but a reference which can be used to locate the previous occurrence of the message data in the log. Preferably the application includes an indication on the put request that the message data has been previously used.